

VIA eFILE

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No.: 16497.1.1.1f

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	Michael T. Carley, et al.)	
)	
Serial No.:	10/541,083)	Art Unit 1793
Filed:	June 29, 2005)	
For:	METHODS FOR MANUFACTURING A CLIP AND CLIP)	
Confirmation No.:	1182)	
Examiner:	Vanessa T. Velasquez)	
Customer No.:	57360)	

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

VIA eFILE Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance by the Examiner of claims 1-13. Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention as set forth in each of the independent claims and the dependent claims must be read as a whole, and not as a single feature or subcombination of features which represent less than the entirety of the claimed invention as a whole. While a particular feature or subcombination of features referred to by the Examiner in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance may represent a basis for distinguishing the claimed invention over the prior art, Applicants further submit that this may not necessarily be the *sole* ground for distinguishing the claimed invention over the prior art of record. Accordingly, the

Examiner's statement should, in Applicants' view, not be read as constituting or meaning that the invention can or should be reduced to a single "feature" of the invention or to a subcombination of features that is less than the entire invention claimed as a whole, nor that the single feature referenced by the Examiner or subcombination of features referenced by the Examiner in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance is the only or sole grounds for distinguishing the invention over the prior art of record, or that applicants necessarily agree with any characterization of the prior art set forth in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Dated this 3rd day of November, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

/Paul N. Taylor, Reg.# 57271/

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